

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO MAYOR WILLIAM ROBERT HOLCOMB

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 3, 2010

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, I join today with my colleague JERRY LEWIS to pay tribute to an outstanding leader, family man and civil servant, former San Bernardino Mayor William Robert Holcomb. Mayor Holcomb passed away at the age of 88 on November 29, 2010.

Bob Holcomb was born on March 1, 1922 in San Bernardino, California, and dedicated his life to his home town. He was a passionate advocate for the city, and is well remembered as the champion who preserved the local water supply.

The Holcomb family has deep roots in San Bernardino County. William F. Holcomb, Bob's great-grandfather, was a pioneer who discovered gold in the 19th century and led a gold rush in the San Bernardino Mountains. His father, Grant Holcomb, served as the city mayor from 1925 thru 1927.

Bob Holcomb graduated from San Bernardino High School, and later received a law degree from the Hastings College of Law at the University of California-Berkeley. He interrupted his studies during World War II to serve in the U.S. Army Air Corps. As a co-pilot, he flew bombing missions from England to Germany.

A practicing lawyer for 14 years, Bob began his political career by winning the fight to maintain San Bernardino's water independence. The giant Metropolitan Water District of Los Angeles made a concerted effort to take control of the extensive groundwater basin under San Bernardino. Holcomb led the campaign against the plan, and voters ultimately decided to retain the San Bernardino Municipal Water District, which protects the local water supply to this day.

As a result of his leadership, Holcomb was appointed as a city water commissioner, and served in that role until his first election as Mayor in 1970.

Considered one of the most dynamic mayor's in the city's history, Bob Holcomb is credited with luring both the Little League Western Headquarters and a California State University campus to San Bernardino. His administration saw the founding of the Norman Feldheym library and a new City Hall. He was instrumental in the creation of the regional transportation agency, Omnitrans.

Over three decades, Bob continued the family tradition of public service with a career as Mayor from 1971 until 1985, and another term from 1989 through 1993. With 18 years, Bob is the city's longest-serving mayor.

He was recognized for both his international interests and a passion for civil rights. He helped create a sister-city partnership with Tachikawa, Japan that has lasted for 51 years. And he was a strong supporter of desegregation of San Bernardino schools. He

was also the first elected official in the area to support Tom Bradley, the first African American to run for California governor.

As a family man, Bob shared 64 years with his wife and partner Penny. They had four children—Jay, who passed away in 1977, as well as daughter Terri Lee Holcomb-Halstead, and sons William Holcomb and Robert Holcomb.

On a personal note, I always appreciated Bob's friendship and his support of local athletic teams. I remember one specific incident during his tenure as mayor, when our softball field was too wet to play on due to rain. Bob had seen how hard our team had worked to get where it was, and wanted to make sure that the game was played—so he brought in helicopters to dry the fields, and the game went off without a hitch. That story exemplifies the type of man that Bob was.

Madam Speaker, Congressman LEWIS and I ask our colleagues to join us in remembering a superb citizen and great community leader. My wife Barbara and I, and JERRY and his wife Arlene, will greatly miss the man who will always be known as Mayor Holcomb, and we extend our sincere condolences to Penny and his extended family.

CONDEMNING NORTH KOREA FOR ATTACK AGAINST SOUTH KOREA

SPEECH OF

HON. RICK LARSEN

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2010

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to condemn North Korea's unprovoked artillery attack against the Republic of Korea. We stand with our treaty ally during this challenging time.

The artillery attack against Yeonpyeong is part of a recent pattern of aggressive and violent behavior by the North. Earlier this year, a North Korean submarine attacked the South Korean ship Cheonan, killing 46 sailors.

I commend the Administration for standing side by side with South Korea. South Korea is a strong trading partner and ally in the Asia-Pacific region. South Korea, and all countries around the world, must know that the U.S. stands with its friends.

Our nation has been steadfast in our support of our Korean allies for over 60 years. We will not waver now.

It is time for all nations interested in a stable and denuclearized Korean peninsula to denounce the recent aggression by North Korea and work for continued peace and prosperity in the region.

ASIAN CARP PREVENTION AND CONTROL ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 1, 2010

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 1421, The Asian Carp Prevention and Control Act.

This bill bans the importation of bighead carp, more commonly known as "Asian carp." These fish have voracious appetites and can grow to weigh more than 100 pounds while eating everything in their path. Making them yet more dangerous is that when agitated by sounds such as boat engines, these fish leap out of the water and have been known to harm boat passengers, resulting in broken bones or worse.

The real nightmare, however, Madam Speaker, is the impending devastation these fish can potentially wreak over the Great Lakes fishery. Asian carp eat up to 40 percent of their body weight every day, and would likely out-compete native species in this \$7 billion fishery. This would result in the decimation of recreational and commercial fishing in the Great Lakes, which is currently known worldwide for its plentiful perch, walleye, whitefish, salmon, and much more.

While I'm happy to vote today in favor of S. 1421 to prevent more Asian carp from being imported into the country it will do nothing to stop the carp already here from entering the Great Lakes.

The fact of the matter is that the Federal Government's response to Asian carp has been woefully inadequate. What is really necessary is an ecological separation of the Great Lakes from the Chicago Waterway System, which is the waterway by which bighead carp are making their way toward the Great Lakes. Bighead carp DNA has already been found in Lake Michigan, and this separation must occur before it's too late and the fish get into the lake and take hold. I urge the President to move faster to address this threat as well as passage of more comprehensive legislation that would do more to prevent this dangerous invasive species from entering the Great Lakes.

The bills I sincerely wish we were voting on today, H.R. 4472: Close All Routes and Prevent Asian Carp Today Act of 2010 and H.R. 5625 Permanent Prevention of Asian Carp Act of 2010, both sponsored by my colleague from Michigan, DAVE CAMP, and of which I am a proud co-sponsor, which would enact a much stronger attack against the Asian carp which poses an imminent threat to our magnificent Great Lakes.

I urge passage of the Asian Carp Prevention and Control Act.

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